

STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Building
Denver, Colorado 80222-1530 4210 E. 11th Avenue
Phone: (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80220-3716
(303) 691-4700



Roy Komer
Governor
Patricia A. Nolan, M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Director

October 26, 1992

Mr. Frazer Lockhart
U.S Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Plant
Building 116
P. O. Box 928
Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

RE: BACKGROUND SURFICIAL SOILS STUDY

Dear Mr. Lockhart;

On March 11, 1992 the Colorado Department of Health, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division (the Division) was invited to meet with representatives of DOE and EG&G to discuss a proposal to obtain background surficial soils data in support of RFI/RI investigations. To date, no further discussions have been held and a formal proposal has not been submitted.

The need for this data is significant since the "sitewide Background Geochemical Characterization Report" omitted "surficial" soils. EG&G requested that the additional work not be added to the Background Report while it was undergoing major revisions and nearing completion. The Division informally concurred with this request but expected work to proceed under a separate or associated study.

Various activities associated with Operable Units 1 and 2 have provided relevant OU-specific background soil information. However, sitewide, not OU specific, background levels should be established in the interest of efficiency and comparability.

DOE should be aware that in the absence of potentially higher background values, it may become necessary to base cleanup decisions solely on risk to human health and the environment. Therefore, the Division expects this work to proceed as an addendum to, or as an associated project of, the Background Geochemical Characterization Report.

Please establish by November 20, 1992 a reasonable date by which a formal proposal will be submitted for EPA and Division review and approval.

If you have any questions, please call Harlen Ainscough of my staff at 692-3337.

Sincerely,



Gary W. Baughman, Chief
Facilities Section
Hazardous Waste Control Program

cc: Daniel S. Miller, AGO
Jackie Berardini, CDH-OE
Martin Hestmark, EPA
R. Schassburger, DOE
Bruce Thatcher, DOE
Scott Grace, DOE
J. M. Kersh, EG&G
Larry Woods, EG&G
Ralph Lindberg, EG&G
Jonathan Love, RFPU